



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

Michael J. SHEA

Atty. Ref.: EX-4C8

Serial No. 09/731,655

TC/A.U.: 3764

Filed: December 8, 2000

Examiner: G. Richman

For: EXERCISE SYSTEM

\* \* \* \* \*

January 18, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated. The identification of the information provided herewith does not constitute an admission that this information is prior art.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider

information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

Applicant has checked the appropriate boxes below.

1. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

No statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee is required.

2. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

a. ☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. ☐ I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

c. ☐ Attached is our Check No. in the amount of \$ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

3. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. It is hereby requested that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our Check No. in the amount of \$ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

a. ☐ I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than

three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.  
37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- b. ☐ I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

4. ☐ Relevance of the non-English language document(s) is discussed in the present specification.

5. ☐ The document(s) was/were cited in a corresponding foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

6. ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:


7. ☐ The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. , filed , (copy attached) which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

8. ☐ Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. , filed , which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Michael J. SHEA  
Serial No. 09/731,655

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
Michael J. Shea  
Reg. No. 34,725

MJS:mjs  
1726 Creek Crossing Road  
Vienna, VA 22182

